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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hans-Ueli Roeck
Serial No.: 09/767,444
Filing Date: January 23, 2001
Title: PROCESS FOR COMMUNICATION AND HEARING AID
SYSTEM
Docket No.: 33270

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows prior to examination
thereof.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited
with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an
envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date indicated below.

Michael W. Garvey
Name of Attorney for Applicant(s)
06-07-2001
Date Signature of Attorney

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1 3. (amended) The process in one of Claims 1 or 2, characterized by the fact
2 that at least some of the time-limited audio signals (Q)

3 — are stored on user-changeable memory elements (20) for the hearing aid,
4 and/or

5 — are user-defined and filed in a memory unit (9a, 11b), wherein the memory
6 unit is built into the hearing aid (9a) or can be brought into a working
7 connection with the hearing aid, and/or

8 — are filed on an audio signal carrier and the audio signals can be called up
9 selectively from the carrier via location information wherein the location
10 information is filed in the hearing aid.

1 4. (amended) The process in one of Claims 1 to 2, characterized by the fact
2 that the electromechanical output transducer is a loudspeaker and at least some of the
3 time-limited electric audio signals (Q) are produced so that the results of the
4 conversion are audible by an individual at a distance.

1 5. (amended) The process in one of Claims 1 to 2, characterized by the fact
2 that the user definition of the time-limited electric audio signals is menu-driven by a
3 communications unit (15) that can be connected to the hearing aid by wireless
4 connection.

1 6. (amended) The process in Claim 5, characterized by the fact that the
2 communications unit controls the menu via a visual display and/or voice control by
3 feeding voice signals into the hearing aid.

1 12. (amended) The system in one of Claims 7 to 9, characterized by the fact
2 that it includes a display unit for visual and/or voice-controlled menu control, which
3 has or can have a working connection to the control-signal-producing organs of the
4 hearing aid, on one hand, and to the audio-signal generator unit on the other.

REMARKS

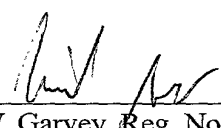
Enclosed are three sheets of formal drawings for the above identified application.

If there are any fees resulting from this communication, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. TSW 33270

Respectfully submitted,

PEARNE & GORDON

By


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June 7, 2001

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims have been amended as follows:

1 3. (amended) The process in one of Claims 1 or 2, characterized by the fact
2 that at least some of the time-limited audio signals (Q)
3 — are stored on user-changeable memory elements (20) for the hearing aid,
4 [preferably read-only,] and/or
5 — are [filed] user-defined and filed in a memory unit (9a, 11b), [which] wherein
6 the memory unit is built into the hearing aid (9a) [and has] or can be brought
7 into a working[, preferably wireless] connection with [it] the hearing aid, and/or
8 — are [user-defined location information in the hearing aid for the audio signals
9 mentioned is] filed on an audio signal carrier and the audio signals can be
10 called up selectively from the carrier via [that] location information wherein the
11 location information is filed in the hearing aid.

1 4. (amended) The process in one of Claims 1 to [3] 2, characterized by the fact
2 that the electromechanical output transducer is a loudspeaker and at least some of the
3 time-limited electric audio signals (Q) are produced so that the results of the
4 conversion are audible by an individual at a distance.

1 5. (amended) The process in one of Claims 1 to [4] 2, characterized by the fact
2 that the user definition of the time-limited electric audio signals is menu-driven[,
3 preferably] by a communications unit (15) that can be connected to the hearing aid [and
4 is preferably wireless] by wireless connection.

1 6. (amended) The process in Claim 5, characterized by the fact that the
2 communications unit controls the menu via a visual display and/or voice control[,
3 preferably] by feeding voice signals into the hearing aid.

1 12. (amended) The system in one of Claims 7 to [11] 9, characterized by the
2 fact that it includes a display unit for visual and/or voice-controlled menu control,
3 which has or can have a working connection to the control-signal-producing organs of
4 the hearing aid, on one hand, and to the audio-signal generator unit on the other.